

## Our City

It seems like spring should be here and perhaps it is. It is hard to tell with only periodic glimpses of the sun between clouds, wind and rain. OH, wait that is spring! I received the notice in the mail that the Reservation fishing permits will go on sale shortly so that pretty much confirms it for me. Like me, most of you if you live in City limits should have received your monthly City bill also confirming spring is at least on its way. In the billing notice you should have reviewed three notices; one from our Streets department, Waste Water department and from our Police department. In case the notices made it to your round file without you reading them I will summarize them for you.

Sewer flushing will begin this week and continue for up to eight weeks. There is a map at City Hall of the areas to be flushed. Typically, most folks never know we have cleaned the sewer lines; however, there are sewer services that are notorious for backing up when the sewer main is flushed adjacent to the service. If we know of an existing issue you will be notified prior to the flushing taking place. As precaution it is always a good idea to keep your toilet seats down, cover any floor drains and make sure your sewer vents are clear of any obstructions. If you have experienced issues in the past but have not notified the City please do so soon so that other problems can be avoided.

The annual spring cleanup will begin the week of May 6<sup>th</sup> and continue through the 9<sup>th</sup>. Your alley will be cleaned on your regular garbage pickup day. It is our intent to help you clean up general debris including grass trimmings, leaves and branches (no longer than 5 feet please). In areas not serviced by an alley please put your leaves and trimmings in your normal garbage pickup location. All items will be picked up and disposed of. However, tires, batteries, concrete, hazardous materials, paint and appliances will not be collected. Alleys will be inspected prior to May 6<sup>th</sup> to insure that the City right of way is not infringed by weeds, shrubs, trees, parked or abandon vehicles. If any of this items are found in the alley next to your property you will be asked to remove them. All trees whose canopy overhangs an alley must be trimmed to a height of 14 feet so that all City equipment can pass through freely. Don't bag your leaves and grass please and keep them separate from any other garbage you intended to have hauled off. Thank you.

Also, included is our notice to clean premises from our Police department. The notice includes Public Nuisances and a description which includes much of what the spring cleaning is intended to help you cleanup it also contains a description as to how trees and hedges encroaching on public property should be trimmed. Also included is our current Abandon Vehicle notice and description.

Last Tuesday Superintendents Dahlke and Fehringer completed a preliminary walk through with management from Depatco who will be constructing the remaining sidewalk and ADA access around north and south City Parks. The walk through also included Bannock Street from Madison to Lee Street where we intended to place sidewalk to facilitate safe passage for pedestrians. When we get to that point City crews will be working with Depatco to make the grant funds that are paying for the project go as far as possible.

I suppose another sure sign that spring has sprung is when construction begins. Apparently it is just around the corner as Depatco will begin construction at the City parks this week. If April showers bring May flowers get ready for a virtual explosion of color in the weeks to come.

Until next week...